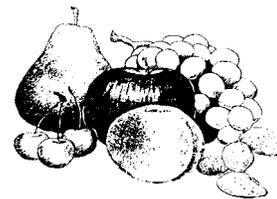


# California Fruit & Nut Review



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## SEPTEMBER CROP COMMENTS

Crop harvesting continued to dominate growers' activities during September. Grapes for fresh use were picked in the San Joaquin Valley, with Flame Seedless, Red Globe, and Ruby Seedless the major varieties. Thompson Seedless variety grapes were picked for fresh, raisin, and wine uses. By October 1, almost the entire raisin crop had been harvested, with about 40 percent on open trays, 27 percent rolled, and one-third picked up. Cool weather has slowed drying. Harvest of grapes for wine was also active during September. Growers were plagued with bunch rot. Picking of late variety stone

fruit was winding down by late September. Apple harvest was active with Royal Gala, Fuji, Granny Smith, and Red Delicious the major varieties. Bartlett pears were picked in Lake and Mendocino areas. Asian pears were picked in the San Joaquin Valley. Dried figs were picked up. Olive harvest had begun by late September. Prune harvest was active with growers concerned about quality. Almond, pistachio, and walnut harvests were active throughout September. Fall strawberries were harvested in the San Joaquin Valley. Grapefruit picking was active in Riverside County during September. Packers were grading out heavy due to soft fruit; packed fruit color and eating quality were good. Some wind scar, sunburn, and sheep nose were also reported. Lemon harvest was active with good quality. Valencia oranges were picked with wind scar, puff, and crease reported. New crop Navel oranges were maturing, with picking expected to begin in late October.

## FRUIT AND NUT STATISTICS AT A GLANCE

Crop	Bearing Acreage		Yield Per Acre		Estimated Production		Production Percent Change	Next Crop Update
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998		
<b>NUT CROPS</b>	- Acres -		- Pounds -		- 1,000 Pounds -			
Almonds (Shelled)	410,000	425,000	1,850	1,270	757,000	540,000	-29	January 1999
Pecans	2,600	2,600	962	620	2,500	1,600	-36	January 1999
Pistachio (In-Shell)								
Marketable In-Shell	---	---	---	---	137,000	---		
Shelling Stock	---	---	---	---	43,000	---		
Total	65,000	65,900	2,750	2,960	180,000	195,000	8	January 1999
Walnuts (In-Shell)	177,200	177,200	1.52	1.24	269.0	220.0	-18	February 1999
<b>FRUIT CROPS</b>	- Acres -		- Tons -		- 1,000 Tons -			
Apples	38,500	35,700	12.80	12.80	481.0	458.0	-5	January 1999
Apricots	19,100	18,900	6.91	6.61	132.0	125.0	-5	January 1999
Cherries	13,700	13,800	3.59	1.09	49.2	15.0	-70	January 1999
Grapes, Raisin	270,000	270,000	10.66	7.78	2,877.0	2,100.0	-27	January 1999
Grapes, Table	76,700	80,000	10.76	9.38	825.0	750.0	-9	January 1999
Grapes, Wine	329,000	350,000	8.94	7.43	2,940.0	2,600.0	-12	January 1999
Grapes, All	675,700	700,000	9.83	7.79	6,642.0	5,450.0	-18	January 1999
Olives	35,300	35,300	2.95	2.69	104.0	95.0	-9	January 1999
Peaches, Clingstone	31,000	30,300	18.50	17.30	574.0	525.0	-9	January 1999
Peaches, Freestone	35,200	32,400	10.50	10.03	369.5	325.0	-12	January 1999
Pears, Bartlett	18,200	18,000	15.50	15.00	282.0	270.0	-4	January 1999
Pears, Other	4,600	4,400	6.25	6.82	30.0	30.0		January 1999
Prunes (Dried Weight)	79,500	80,100	2.69	2.12	214.0	170.0	-21	January 1999
<b>BERRIES</b>	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998		
Strawberries	22,600	24,300	590	514	13,334	12,490	-6	Dec. 11, 1998
<b>CITRUS CROP 1/</b>	1997-98	1998-99	1997-98	1998-99	1997-98	1998-99		
Grapefruit	16,800	16,600	1,072	904	18,000	16,800	-7	January 1999
Lemons	48,700	48,500	904	866	44,000	42,000	-5	January 1999
Oranges, Navel	123,000	125,000	716	544	88,000	68,000	-23	January 1999
Oranges, Valencia	73,200	72,000	820	778	60,000	56,000	-7	January 1999
Tangerines 2/	8,800	8,600	546	582	4,800	5,000	4	January 1999

1/ Grapefruit -- 33.5 lbs. per carton; Lemons -- 38.0 lbs. per carton; Oranges -- 37.5 lbs. per carton.

2/ Includes tangelos, tangerines and tangors.

**Oranges:** This year's orange crop is forecast at 124 million cartons, down 16 percent from last season. California's Navel orange forecast is 68.0 million cartons, down 23 percent from last season. Picking of early season Navel orange varieties is expected to begin in the Edison area of Kern County by mid-October. The number of oranges per tree is less than last year and the size of the fruit is smaller. Maturity has been slow, but the fruit is making progress. The 1998-99 California Valencia orange forecast is 56.0 million cartons, down 7 percent from last season.

**Grapefruit:** The 1998-99 all grapefruit crop is forecast at 16.8 million cartons, down 7 percent from the 1997-98 production estimate. Weather conditions to date have been good. The cooler weather has produced less soft fruit.

**Lemons:** The initial 1998-99 lemon forecast is 42.0 million cartons, down 5 percent from the 44.0 million cartons of 1997-98. Quality has predominantly been fair to good in the Central Valley and south coastal growing areas.

**Tangerines:** The initial forecast for tangerines is 5.00 million cartons, up 4 percent from the 1997-98 season. The crop was maturing well, with average quality reported. Picking should begin the middle to late October.

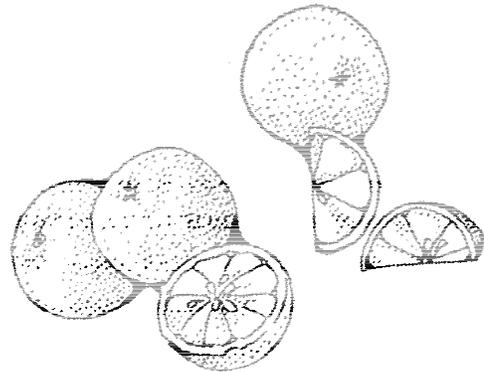
**CITRUS FRUIT PRODUCTION BY STATE AND U.S.**

Crop & State	1996-97	1997-98	Forecast 1998-99
<b>ORANGES: 1/</b>	- 1,000 Cartons -		
California, All	128,000	148,000	124,000
Navel & Misc.	80,000	88,000	68,000
Valencia	48,000	60,000	56,000
Florida	452,400	488,000	380,000
Texas	2,840	3,050	2,880
Arizona	2,000	2,000	2,000
U.S. TOTAL	585,240	641,050	508,880
<b>GRAPEFRUIT: 2/</b>			
California, All 3/	16,400	18,000	16,800
Florida	111,600	99,100	100,000
Texas	10,600	9,600	10,000
Arizona	1,800	1,600	1,400
U.S. TOTAL	140,400	128,300	128,200
<b>LEMONS: 4/</b>			
California	45,200	44,000	42,000
Arizona	5,200	5,200	5,400
U.S. TOTAL	50,400	49,200	47,400
<b>TANGERINES: 5/</b>			
California 6/	5,200	4,800	5,000
Florida	12,600	10,400	8,400
Arizona	1,100	1,200	1,300
U.S. TOTAL	18,900	16,400	14,700

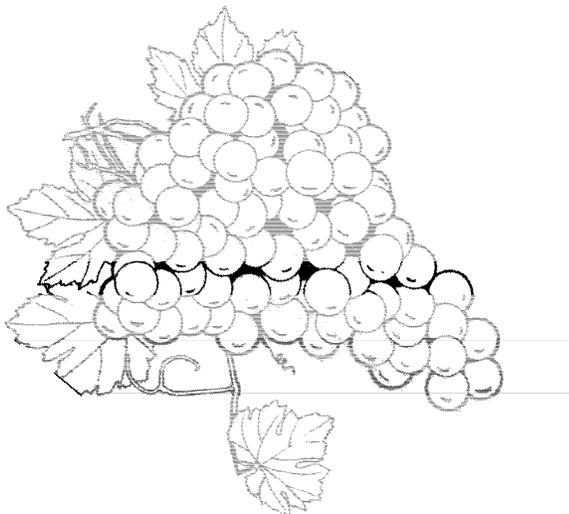
- 1/ ORANGES: California and Arizona, 1 carton = 37.5 lbs.; Florida, 1 carton = 45 lbs.; Texas, 1 carton = 42.5 lbs.
- 2/ GRAPEFRUIT: California and Arizona, 1 carton = 33.5 lbs.; Florida, 1 carton = 42.5 lbs.; Texas, 1 carton = 40 lbs.
- 3/ Desert and other Area Grapefruit forecasts combined to all Grapefruit beginning in 95-96.
- 4/ LEMONS: 1 carton = 38 lbs.
- 5/ TANGERINES: California and Arizona, 1 carton = 37.5 lbs.; Florida, 1 carton = 47.5 lbs.
- 6/ Includes tangelos, tangerines, and tangors.

**FLORIDA CITRUS**

Most areas of Florida's citrus belt received an over abundance of rain during September, including heavy rains associated with hurricane Georges. Very little significant damage was caused from the hurricane. An abundance of new growth has occurred on trees of all ages generated from the tropical weather of this past month. New crop fruit made good progress during the month. Some splitting occurred on early types of fruit from excessive moisture conditions. Harvest for the 1998-99 season progressed very slowly during the month as about a dozen packing houses were running at reduced rates due to lagging maturity. Harvesting crews are selectively picking white and colored grapefruit, Navels, Hamlins, and Amber sweet oranges, as well as Fallglo and Robinson tangerines. Caretakers have been kept very busy cutting cover crops that have grown out of control, spraying fresh fruit for insects and diseases, and fertilizing young trees.



**Grapes:** Production of all grape varieties for the 1998 season is forecast at 5.45 million tons, an 18 percent decrease from last season. The Raisin-type grape forecast is 2.10 million tons, down 27 percent, while table grapes are forecast at 750 thousand tons, a 9 percent decrease. The estimate for wine-type grapes is down 12 percent to 2.60 million tons. Thompson Seedless grapes for fresh use, wine crush, and raisin lay were still active in late September. Harvest of the late maturing wine grapes is still active, with many growers concerned about bunch rot and mildew.



**FRUIT PRODUCTION**

Crop & State	1996	1997	1998 Forecast
<b>APPLES</b>	--- Tons ---		
California	475,000	481,000	457,500
Idaho	95,000	55,000	95,000
Michigan	350,000	525,000	510,000
New York	515,000	560,000	505,000
North Carolina	100,000	76,000	87,500
Ohio	45,000	32,500	40,000
Oregon	78,000	80,000	90,000
Pennsylvania	195,500	267,500	206,000
Virginia	137,500	135,000	152,500
Washington	2,750,000	2,500,000	3,000,000
West Virginia	52,500	57,500	52,500
Other States <sup>1/</sup>	402,500	423,550	380,950
<b>U.S. TOTAL</b>	<b>5,196,000</b>	<b>5,193,050</b>	<b>5,576,950</b>
<b>GRAPES</b>			
California: All	5,009,000	6,642,000	5,450,000
Raisin	2,192,000	2,877,000	2,100,000
Table	592,000	825,000	750,000
Wine	2,225,000	2,940,000	2,600,000
Arizona	25,000	23,000	24,000
Michigan	65,000	61,000	74,000
New York	189,000	139,000	120,000
Pennsylvania	83,000	58,000	52,000
Washington	144,000	319,000	235,000
Other States <sup>2/</sup>	39,300	40,400	46,850
<b>U.S. TOTAL</b>	<b>5,554,300</b>	<b>7,282,400</b>	<b>6,001,850</b>

<sup>1/</sup> 1996: AZ, AR, CO, CT, DE, GA, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, ME, MD, MA, MN, MO, NH, NJ, NM, RI, SC, TN, UT, VT, and WI.  
 1997-98: Delaware forecast discontinued.  
 1998: New Mexico forecast discontinued.  
<sup>2/</sup> AR, GA, MO, NC, OH, OR, and SC.

**CALIFORNIA CASH INCOME BY COMMODITIES AND COMMODITY GROUPS, 1995-97**

Source of Income	1995	1996	1997
	\$1,000		
<b>FRUIT &amp; NUT CROPS</b>			
Apples	154,815	151,269	167,161
Apricots	20,913	30,663	37,673
Cherries	41,540	45,430	63,375
Figs	16,429	12,850	12,103
Nectarines	93,990	116,977	98,895
Peaches, Clingstone	87,847	114,510	143,000
Peaches, Freestone	93,175	146,306	89,937
Pears	62,183	89,728	87,309
Plums	117,849	95,831	75,886
Prunes	199,438	187,676	178,421
Almonds	880,896	1,018,368	1,126,850
Pecans	3,712	1,079	3,300
Pistachios	161,320	121,800	203,400
Walnuts	327,600	326,560	352,390
Grapes	1,859,900	2,187,737	2,816,000
Kiwifruit	15,434	13,157	16,483
Avocados	228,606	235,478	248,069
Dates	17,598	23,301	23,574
Olives	50,065	102,588	68,536
Grapefruit	52,661	57,671	35,330
Lemons	224,929	193,654	234,177
Oranges, Navel & Misc.	278,748	299,726	334,282
Oranges, Valencia	252,841	255,850	246,165
Tangerines	38,317	29,192	24,126
Bushberries	28,235	30,968	32,169

Source of Income	1995	1996	1997
	\$1,000		
Strawberries	611,358	584,860	686,418
Other Fruits & Nuts	62,750	81,220	85,675
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,983,149</b>	<b>6,554,449</b>	<b>7,490,704</b>
<b>VEGETABLE CROPS</b>	5,730,327	5,448,094	5,974,094
<b>FIELD CROPS</b>	3,112,781	2,989,056	3,171,585
<b>NURSERY/GREENHOUSE PRODUCTS</b>	2,158,508	2,281,327	2,346,432
<b>CHRISTMAS TREES</b>	14,928	12,491	12,000
<b>LIVESTOCK, POULTRY &amp; PRODUCTS</b>	5,549,294	6,211,821	6,294,239
<b>TOTAL CASH INCOME FROM MARKETINGS</b>	<b>22,548,987</b>	<b>23,497,238</b>	<b>25,289,054</b>
<b>FARM RELATED INCOME</b>	1,041,815	1,765,815	1,504,258
<b>GROSS CASH INCOME FROM FARMING <sup>1/</sup></b>	<b>23,590,802</b>	<b>25,263,053</b>	<b>26,793,312</b>

<sup>1/</sup> Includes value of home consumption, value of inventory adjustments, machine hire and custom work, forest products sold, rental value of farm dwelling, government payments, and other miscellaneous farm income. **SOURCE: USDA Economic Research Service**